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SECURITY INFORMATION

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Department of State

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POLICY PLANNING STAFF

June 24, 1953

Memorandum for, []

Subject: Territory Integrity of Albania

The attached papers bear on the subject of your memorandum to me of April 15, 1953. They may be of some help in searching for material on the "independence and territorial integrity" of Albania, and they would seem to obviate the need for inspiring any further action, at least for the present, along this line.

Please return the attached papers as soon as they have served their purpose.

/s/
Outerbridge Horsey

Attachments:

1. Paper on "Italy and Vatican", May 8, 1953.
2. Press Release No. 893, November 28, 1952.
3. Tel. to Mr. Hasan Dosti, November 28, 1951.
4. Copy of Secretary Acheson's Message to Albanian People, May 13, 1951.

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ITALY AND VATICAN

May 8, 1953

PRESS INFORMED ON FOREIGN POLICY AIMS

Rome, Italian Home Service, May 7, 1953, 1930 GMT--L

(Summary with Quotations)

In his press conference today the Italian Foreign Ministry's spokesman said that "the fact that De Gasperi will attend the EDC Foreign Ministers meeting in Paris at this stage of the election campaign shows the importance which Italy attributes to the European Community.

"On the subject of Italo-Albanian relations, the spokesman said that they had not yet reached that degree of normality which was desirable because of Tirana's policy: The Albanian Government had given a fresh proof of its intolerance a few days ago, when a protest was received in Rome against some RAI transmissions, together with the request for the arrest and extradition of some political refugees.

The Italian Foreign Ministry had rejected the protest, stating that Italy was a free country, whose Constitution guaranteed right of asylum to political refugees. It was certain that in Albania, as in the other countries behind the Iron Curtain, there existed feelings of revolt and movements of resistance: They were subjected to ups and downs, according to the ability of the police to exercise repressions. In any case Italy's viewpoint on Albania was well known: Liberty, independence and territorial integrity."

Turning to relations with the Arab countries, the spokesman said that an Arab-Italian economic meeting would be held in Bari from Sept. 26 to 29. It was organized by the Italo-Arab Center and would be attended by economists and experts, both Italian and Arab, to enquire into possibilities of increasing trade exchanges. Important agreements had been stipulated lately between Italy and the Arab world.

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Department of State

November 28, 1952

for the Press

NO. 893

ALBANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1952

It is a matter of history that the Albanian people have defended their freedom and independence for centuries, just as they are doing today and will continue to do until they free themselves from the current Soviet puppet regime. Their struggle for independence began with their national hero, Skanderbeg, who proclaimed an independent Albania on November 28, 1443. After Skanderbeg's death, the Albanian people continued to fight for freedom for almost five centuries. Their efforts were crowned with success on November 28, 1912, when Albanian independence was again proclaimed at Vlore.

During and after the first World War, Albanians in the United States played a leading role in the struggle for preserving Albania's independence. President Wilson, on behalf of the United States Government, championed Albania's right to independence in 1920. During World War II, on December 10, 1942, the United States was the first of the Allied Powers to make an official declaration on the restoration of a free and independent Albania.

The longstanding friendship between the American and Albanian people is a natural result of the close association of the United States with the aspirations of the Albanian people for freedom and independence. Today the American people view with great sympathy the plight of the Albanian people, and look forward to the eventual return of Albania to the community of free nations.

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Department of State
(AIRGRAM)

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SENT TO: Mr. Hasan Dosti,
President of the National Committee
For a Free Albania,
839 West End Avenue,
New York 25, New York.

Nov. 28, 1951

"On behalf of the Secretary of State I wish to thank the National Committee for a Free Albania for the message of greetings sent him by the committee on the occasion of the day of Albanian Independence. The United States Government and people, mindful of their tradition of friendship for the Albanian people, regard with warm sympathy the efforts of the Committee to uphold the principles of freedom and of the independence of their country."

JAMES E. WEBB

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Secretary Acheson's Message to the Albanian People on the
Opening of the Voice of America Albanian-Language Program

"It gives me great pleasure to bring to the Albanian people a message from the Government and the people of the United States on this occasion. With the reopening of the Voice of America Albanian-language program, the United States Government and people once again express their traditional interest in the Albanian people. A bond between us is being reaffirmed; our long-standing friendship should gain new strength and meaning. This friendship is a natural result of the close association of the United States with the struggle of the Albanian people for freedom and independence. Through the years the United States Government and the American people have regarded this struggle with sympathy and support, knowing that it reflects your true aspirations.

"At the Versailles Peace Conference in 1919 where President Woodrow Wilson took a personal interest in re-establishing an independent Albania the United States Government supported the efforts of Albanian patriots.

"Between the two world wars the United States maintained close and friendly ties with the Albanian people. Humanitarian and educational institutions such as the American Junior Red Cross, the Near East Foundation, and the Rockefeller Foundation were encouraged to aid them in their efforts to develop their own institutions. The United States was the first of the allied powers during World War II to make an official declaration on the restoration of a free Albania, stating on December 10, 1942, that it was inherent in the principles of the Atlantic Charter.

"But this is history, your own past. From now on the Voice of America will talk to you about the present and the future. In the present, as you know far better than I, your hopes for a free and sovereign country have yet to be realized. In helping you develop your future as a free and independent member of the community of nations, the United States Government through this radio program will bring you the tools of judgment - the facts. The Voice of America will bring you what you have been too long denied - truth from the free world. The Government of the United States and the American people send you their greetings, and the Voice of America welcomes you among its listeners."

May 13, 1951.